

effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered. This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist.

The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that was cited or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

This First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed less than three months after the U.S. filing date or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is required.

It is respectfully requested that the examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

Consideration of the cited documents and making the same of record in the prosecution of the above-identified application is respectfully requested. The U.S. Patent

and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this pleading is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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Date: January 31, 2002

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A DOCPHOENIX

APPL PARTS

_____**IMIS**_____
Internal Misc. Paper

_____**LET.**_____
Misc. Incoming Letter

_____**371P**_____
PQT Papers in a 371Application

11/31/02A... 2
Amendment Including Elections

_____**ABST**_____
Abstract

_____**ADS**_____
Application Data Sheet

_____**AF/D**_____
Affidavit or Exhibit Received

_____**APPENDIX**_____
Appendix

_____**ARTIFACT**_____
Artifact

_____**BIB**_____
Bib Data Sheet

_____**CLM**_____
Claim

_____**COMPUTER**_____
Computer Program Listing

_____**CRFL**_____
All CRF Papers for Backfile

_____**DIST**_____
Terminal Disclaimer Filed

_____**DRW**_____
Drawings

_____**FOR**_____
Foreign Reference

_____**FRPR**_____
Foreign Priority Papers

_____**IDS**_____
IDS Including 1449

_____**NPL**_____
Non-Patent Literature

_____**OATH**_____
Oath or Declaration

_____**PET.**_____
Petition

_____**RETMAIL**_____
Mail Returned by USPS

_____**SEQLIST**_____
Sequence Listing

_____**SPEC**_____
Specification

_____**SPEC NO**_____
Specification Not in English

_____**TRNA**_____
Transmittal New Application

_____**CTNF**_____
Count Non-Final

_____**CTRS**_____
Count Restriction

_____**EXIN**_____
Examiner Interview

_____**M903**_____
DO/EO Acceptance

_____**M905**_____
DO/EO Missing Requirement

_____**NFDR**_____
Formal Drawing Required

_____**NOA**_____
Notice of Allowance

_____**PETDEC**_____
Petition Decision

OUTGOING

_____**CTMS**_____
Misc. Office Action

_____**1449**_____
Signed 1449

_____**892**_____
892

_____**ABN**_____
Abandonment

_____**APDEC**_____
Board of Appeals Decision

_____**APEA**_____
Examiner Answer

_____**CTAV**_____
Count Advisory Action

_____**CTEQ**_____
Count Ex parte Quayle

_____**CTFR**_____
Count Final Rejection

INCOMING

_____**AP.B**_____
Appeal Brief

_____**C.AD**_____
Change of Address

_____**N/AP**_____
Notice of Appeal

_____**PA..**_____
Change in Power of Attorney

_____**REM**_____
Applicant Remarks in Amendment

_____**XT/**_____
Extension of Time filed separate

Internal

_____**SRNT**_____
Examiner Search Notes

_____**CLMPTO**_____
PTO Prepared Complete Claim Set

_____**ECBOX**_____
Evidence Copy Box Identification

_____**WCLM**_____
Claim Worksheet

_____**WFEE**_____
Fee Worksheet

File Wrapper

_____**FWCLM**_____
File Wrapper Claim

_____**IIFW**_____
File Wrapper Issue Information

_____**SRFW**_____
File Wrapper Search Info